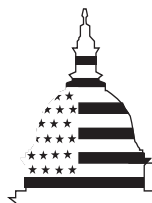


December 1999

OLYMPIC GAMES

Preliminary Information on Federal Funding and Support



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United States General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

General Government Division

B-284275

December 21, 1999

The Honorable John D. Dingell
Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Commerce
House of Representatives

The Honorable John McCain
Chairman, Committee on Commerce,
Science and Transportation
United States Senate

Concerned about the rising costs of federal funding and support of the Olympic Games over the years and the appropriateness of funding for certain projects, you requested information on federal funding and support¹ of the 1984 Summer Olympic Games held in Los Angeles, CA; the 1996 Summer Olympic Games held in Atlanta, GA; and the planned 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, UT.² You requested that we answer four questions: (1) What was the amount of federal funding and support provided to the 1984 Olympic Games held in Los Angeles and the 1996 Olympic Games held in Atlanta, and the planned amount for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City? (2) What types of Olympic-related projects and activities received federal funding and support? (3) What are the federal policies and legislative authorizations for providing federal funding and support? (4) What procedures exist to ensure that federal funding and support were properly awarded and used?

Specifically, this preliminary report responds, in part, to the first two questions. It provides information on the amount of federal funding and support agencies reported as being related to the Olympic Games held in Los Angeles and Atlanta, and currently planned for Salt Lake City. It also identifies the types of projects and activities each of the federal agencies reported as being Olympic-related. More detailed information about the projects and activities themselves, as well as information addressing questions three and four above, will be provided in our final report to be issued next year.

¹ Federal funding is typically provided to such entities as the city, state, and Olympic organizing committees through such mechanisms as agency memorandums of agreement, grant awards, and government contracts. Federal support is generally provided in the form of in-kind contributions, such as personnel, equipment, and other resources.

² The 1996 Olympic Games and the planned 2002 Winter Olympic Games also include the Paralympic Games. The Paralympic Games were not a part of the 1984 Summer Olympic Games.

Because there is no systematic or central accounting for federal funding and support provided to the Los Angeles and Atlanta Summer Olympic Games, and planned for the Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games, we made a governmentwide inquiry by contacting the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and 29 other federal organizations regarding federal support and funding of the Olympic Games. To supplement the information we received, we researched legislative databases dating back to 1979 to identify federal funding and support of the Olympic Games held in Los Angeles and Atlanta, and planned for Salt Lake City. We also reviewed numerous reports and interviewed appropriate federal, state, and local government officials and representatives of several private organizations to document and discuss the federal government's involvement with the Olympic Games. We conducted our review from April 1999 to December 1999 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. A more detailed description of our scope and methodology is included in the appendix.

Three points need to be considered in connection with the data on federal funding and support of the Olympic Games contained in this report. First, it was not possible to precisely calculate the total amount of federal funding and support for the Olympic Games because there is no requirement that federal agencies determine or account for this information in a systematic manner. Second, we are still in the process of quantifying the total amount of federal funding and support as well as trying to determine from the agencies how much of the federal funding and support would have been provided or planned for the Olympic host city regardless of whether the Olympic Games were held there versus the amount of federal funding and support that would have been provided or planned solely for the planning and staging of the Games. Third, most of the federal funding and support reported for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games is planned and could change between now and 2002. Ultimately, it may not be possible to obtain a definitive determination from all agencies concerning whether federal funding for some projects would have been provided if Los Angeles, Atlanta, and Salt Lake City were not the host cities for the Olympic Games.

Results in Brief

At least 24 federal organizations reported providing or planning to provide a combined total of about \$2.1 billion in 1999 dollars³ for Olympic-related projects and activities for the Los Angeles and Atlanta Summer Olympic

³ Unless otherwise noted in this report, all dollars are reported in 1999 dollars. In addition, our conversion to 1999 dollars is less than precise because the yearly data were not always available. Also, in some cases, the numbers may not total because of rounding.

Games and the planned Salt Lake City Winter Olympic Games. Of the estimated \$2.1 billion, approximately \$530 million was reported to have been provided or planned for projects and activities solely related to the planning and staging of the Olympic Games. These projects included or plan to include such activities as safety- and security-related services and transportation services. The remaining estimated \$1.6 billion was spent or is planned for projects, such as highway construction, transit system development, and other capital projects, that the host cities of Atlanta and Salt Lake City wanted to have completed in time for the Olympic Games. According to federal and state officials, they identified these projects as Olympic-related because their completion was generally accelerated to improve transportation services and avoid construction during the Olympic Games. These officials said that most of the federal funding for these projects would have been eventually provided to the host city regardless of the Olympic Games.

Concerning the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, federal funding and support totaled about \$75 million and involved 11 federal organizations. The majority of the federal funding and support, about \$68 million, was for safety- and security-related services provided during the planning and staging of the Olympic Games. Unlike the federal funding and support for the later Olympic Games, the federal organizations reported little funding and support for capital projects related to preparing Los Angeles for the 1984 Summer Olympic Games.

The majority of the federal funding and support agencies reported providing to the 1996 Summer Olympic Games held in Atlanta and planned for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games is reported to be for infrastructure projects to prepare the host city for the Olympic Games—projects that will also benefit the host city and state after the Games are held. However, although the completion of these projects was generally accelerated because of the Olympic Games, most of the funding for these activities probably would have eventually been provided to the host city regardless of the Games, according to federal and state officials. For example, federal funding and support for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta totaled about \$605 million and involved 24 federal organizations. Of this amount, about \$184 million was spent on activities provided during the planning and staging of the Olympic Games, including about \$92 million for safety- and security-related services, which would not have been used for this purpose if the Games had not been hosted there. About \$421 million was spent for highway, transit, public housing, and other capital projects related to preparing Atlanta for the Games. According to federal

and state officials, most of the \$421 million would eventually have been provided to Georgia, regardless of the Olympic Games.

About \$1.4 billion in federal funding and support is planned or has been provided for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City and involves 18 federal organizations. Of this amount, about \$272 million is planned or has been provided for activities during the planning and staging of the Olympic Games, including about \$200 million for safety- and security-related services, which would not have been used for this purpose if the Games were not being hosted there. About \$1.1 billion is planned or has been provided for highway, transit, and other capital improvement projects that appear to be related to preparing the host city for the Olympic Games. According to federal and state officials, most of the \$1.1 billion would have been eventually provided to Utah, regardless of the Olympic Games.

Federal Funding and Support for the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles

Eleven federal organizations reported providing about \$75 million in funding and support for the 1984 Summer Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Most of this funding and support, about \$68 million, was for safety- and security-related services provided during the planning and staging of the Olympic Games by the Departments of Defense, Justice, Transportation, and the Treasury, and thus would not have been provided if Los Angeles had not hosted the Olympic Games. Unlike the federal funding and support for the later Olympic Games, the federal organizations reported little funding and support for capital projects that would have benefited Los Angeles after the Olympic Games were held.

Table 1: Federal Funding and Support for the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles, CA

Dollars in thousands

Federal organization	Project or activity	Expenditures ^a	
		As reported	1999 dollars
Department of Agriculture		\$160	\$234
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	Quarantine of animals used in Olympics	160	234
Department of Commerce		262	382
Economic Development Administration	Economic development grants: public works	100	146
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Weather forecasting services	162	236
Department of Defense		32,001	46,703
	Logistical support, personnel, equipment, other services for safety and security related services		
Department of Health and Human Services	Safety and security related services	212	309
Department of Justice		6,787	9,905
Drug Enforcement Administration	Safety- and security-related services	284	414
Federal Bureau of Investigation	Safety- and security-related services	5,164	7,536
Immigration and Naturalization Service	Safety, security, and increased agency services	1,334	1,947
U.S. Marshals Service ^b	Safety- and security-related services	0	0

Dollars in thousands

Federal organization	Project or activity	Expenditures ^a	
		As reported	1999 dollars
Interpol	Safety- and security-related services	5	7
Department of State	Increased agency services	1,963	2,865
Department of Transportation		2,709	3,954
U.S. Coast Guard	Safety- and security-related services	1,851	2,701
Federal Aviation Administration	Safety, security, and increased agency services	858	1,252
Department of the Treasury		4,989	7,281
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	Safety- and security-related services	1,880	2,744
U.S. Secret Service	Safety- and security-related services	1,621	2,366
U.S. Customs Service	Safety- and security-related services	1,488	2,172
Department of Veterans Affairs	Not available	392	572
Federal Communications Commission	Communication systems improvements	181	264
U.S. Information Agency	Increased public information services	1,498	2,186
Total		\$51,154	\$74,656

^aPersonnel costs are generally not included in these amounts, with the exception of the Department of Justice figures.

^bThe U.S. Marshals Service reported that it provided \$206,000, or \$300,642 in 1999 dollars; however, the Department of State reimbursed it. As such, we have included this amount in the Department of State's figure.

Source: OMB.

Federal Funding and Support for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta

Twenty-four federal organizations reported providing about \$605 million in funding and support for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta. This included about \$184 million for activities that solely related to the planning and staging of the Olympic Games, including about \$92 million for safety and security activities, provided by the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Energy, Health and Human Services, Justice, Transportation, the Treasury, and Veterans Affairs, as well as the Corporation for National and Community Services, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the Federal Executive Board. In addition, about \$421 million was provided for highway, transit, and other capital improvement projects related to preparing the host city for the Olympic Games.

According to Transportation and other agency officials, most of the federal funding for highway, transit, and other capital improvement projects would eventually have been provided regardless of whether Atlanta was selected as the host city for the 1996 Olympic Games. However, these officials identified these specific projects as Olympic-related because their completion generally had to be accelerated in order for Atlanta to successfully host the Games.

On the other hand, Transportation officials stated that the \$17 million spent on the Olympic Transportation System⁴ would not have been funded had it not been for the Olympic Games. In addition, funding provided for the construction of the Olympic Whitewater venue also appears to fall into this category.

Table 2: Federal Funding and Support for the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta, GA

Dollars in thousands

Federal organization	Project or activity	Expenditures ^a		Designated by Congress ^b	
		As reported	1999 dollars	Actual	1999 dollars
Department of Agriculture		\$20,690	\$21,588	\$500	\$522
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service	Quarantine horses and increased agency services	488	509	0	0
U.S. Forest Service	Urban Reforestation	1,973	2,059	500	522
	Whitewater Olympic Venue Construction	16,534	17,252	5,992	6,252
	Safety- and security-related services	1,378	1,438	0	0
Natural Conservation Resource Service	Native plants (flowers/grass) planted at Olympic venues and city parks	317	331	0	0
Department of Commerce		9,088	9,482	0	0
Economic Development Administration	Public works projects including sewer construction and street improvements	8,037	8,386	0	0
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Weather forecasting services	1,051	1,097	0	0
Department of Defense^c		37,161	38,774	34,800	36,311
Office of Special Events	Safety- and security-related services	18,600	19,407	18,600	19,407
Army Forces Command	Safety- and security-related services	16,200	16,903	16,200	16,903
Corps of Engineers	Savannah River Walk construction	2,083	2,173	0	0
	Campground improvements	250	261	0	0
	Temporary rangers	28	29	0	0
Department of Education	Paralympic Organizing Committee	7,110	7,419	7,000	7,304
Department of Energy		4,491	4,686	0	0
	Safety- and security-related services	1,141	1,191	0	0
	Efficiency renewable energy projects	3,350	3,495	0	0
Department of Health and Human Services		882	920	0	0
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Safety- and security-related services	150	157	0	0
Environmental Health	Safety- and security-related services	732	764	0	0
Social Security Administration	Videotaping Paralympic ceremonies	1,500	1,565	1,500	1,565
Department of Housing and Urban Development	Community planning development improvements	16,992	17,730	0	0
Department of the Interior		12,477	13,019	12,500	13,043

⁴ For the 1996 Olympic Games, the Olympic Transportation System refers to the city buses that were borrowed from other cities and were used to transport spectators to venues during the Olympic Games. These buses were returned to the respective cities after the Games were completed.

Dollars in thousands

Federal organization	Project or activity	Expenditures ^a		Designated by Congress ^b	
		As reported	1999 dollars	Actual	1999 dollars
National Park Service	Martin Luther King, Jr. historical site development and increased park services	12,477	13,019	12,500	13,043
Department of Justice		22,340	23,310	4,000	4,174
Community Relations Service	Mitigation of racial conflicts	29	30	0	0
Drug Enforcement Administration	300 agents for safety- and security-related services	3,412	3,560	0	0
Federal Bureau of Investigation	1,200 staff for safety- and security-related services	11,047	11,527	0	0
Immigration and Naturalization Service	130 additional staff to assist with processing international passengers	1,471	1,535	0	0
Civil Rights Division	Americans with Disabilities Act	147	153	0	0
Office of Justice Programs	Grant for Atlanta police overtime costs	4,000	4,174	4,000	4,174
	Safety and security study	1,300	1,356	0	0
Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys	Additional equipment and four attorneys	575	600	0	0
U.S. Marshals Service	150 Marshals for safety and security services	359	375	0	0
Department of Labor	Employment and training services	2,910	3,036	2,500	2,609
Department of State	Increased agency services	1,001	1,044	0	0
Department of Transportation		376,675	393,025	16,058	16,755
Federal Highway Administration	Accelerated road and bridge projects	247,597	258,344	58	61
Federal Transit Administration	Accelerated Transit improvements	108,800	113,523	0	0
	Olympic Transportation System	16,000	16,694	16,000	16,694
Federal Aviation Administration	Facilities, Services, and Planning	1,551	1,618	0	0
Federal Railroad Administration	Public safety and security	37	39	0	0
U.S. Coast Guard	Public safety and security	2,690	2,807	0	0
Department of the Treasury		6,787	7,082	5,478	5,716
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	100 agents for safety and security services	2,374	2,477	2,200	2,295
Internal Revenue Service	100 agents for safety and security services	222	232	0	0
U.S. Secret Service	Safety and security services	3,400	3,548	3,278	3,420
U.S. Customs Service	150 inspectors for increased services	791	825	0	0
Department of Veterans Affairs		1,645	1,716	0	0
	Safety, security, and medical supplies	1,550	1,617	0	0
	Donated excess supplies for Paralympics	95	99	0	0
Corporation for National and Community Services	Public safety and security, mostly for the Paralympics Games	3,000	3,130	0	0
Environmental Protection Agency		7,868	8,210	7,000	7,304
	Sewer construction	6,498	6,780	7,000	7,304

Dollars in thousands

Federal organization	Project or activity	Expenditures ^a		Designated by Congress ^b	
		As reported	1999 dollars	Actual	1999 dollars
	Bike path construction	300	313	0	0
	Increased services	1,070	1,116	0	0
Federal Communications Commission	Communication systems improvements	37	39	0	0
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Safety- and security-related services	10,954	11,429	0	0
Federal Executive Board	Federal employee volunteers salary for safety- and security-related service	1,745	1,821	0	0
General Services Administration	Paralympic Organizing Committee administrative costs	1,999	2,086	2,000	2087
Tennessee Valley Authority	Whitewater venue construction and water release for sporting event	4,905	5,119	0	0
U.S. Information Agency	Olympic information programs	7,237	7,551	0	0
U.S. Postal Service		19,859	20,721	0	0
	Building improvements	15,745	16,428	0	0
	Increased services	4,114	4,293	0	0
Total		\$579,354	\$604,501	\$99,723	\$104,052

^aPersonnel costs are generally not included in these amounts, with the exception of the U.S. Forest Service figure.

^b"Designated by Congress" refers to funds that were specifically designated for an Olympic-related purpose in appropriations acts or committee reports accompanying those acts.

^cAccording to Department of Defense officials, the Defense Department spent about \$35 million of the \$50 million designated by Congress for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games. The remaining \$15 million was maintained by the Defense Department for future athletic events.

Source: OMB and various federal agency officials.

Planned and Provided Federal Funding and Support for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City

As of December 1999, total federal funding and support planned for or provided to the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City was estimated to be about \$1.4 billion. Of this amount, about \$188 million was spent by the 18 federal organizations identified to date. Of the estimated \$1.4 billion, approximately \$272 million appears to have been planned or provided for the activities solely related to the planning and staging of the Olympic Games and, thus, would not be provided if Salt Lake City was not hosting the Games. Of this amount, about \$200 million is planned or has been provided for safety and security activities by the Departments of Defense, Energy, Health and Human Services, the Interior, Justice, the Treasury, and Veterans Affairs as well as the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the General Services Administration. About \$1.1 billion is planned or has been provided for highways, bridges, light rail, and bus systems that appear to be related to preparing the host city for the Games. According to federal

and state officials, most of the \$1.1 billion would eventually have been provided regardless of the Olympic Games.

Moreover, Transportation officials said that most of the \$1.1 billion planned for the highway and transit projects for Salt Lake City is for projects that were recognized by Utah as needing improvements prior to Salt Lake City receiving the bid to host the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. However, they identified them as Olympic-related projects because their completion generally had to be accelerated to improve transportation services and avoid construction during the Olympic Games. In their opinion, most of these projects would eventually have been funded, regardless of whether the Olympic Games were held in Salt Lake City.

On the other hand, as in Atlanta's case, some projects are planned that are solely related to the planning and staging of the Olympic Games. For example, as listed in table 3, about \$47 million is planned for the Olympic Transportation System,⁵ which is being designed and developed solely for transporting people to and from Olympic venues. It appears that these funds would not be provided to Utah if Salt Lake City was not hosting the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

Table 3: Federal Funding and Support for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, UT

Dollars in thousands

Federal organization	Project or activity	Planned		Expenditure ^a as reported	Designated by Congress ^b (Actual)
		As reported	1999 dollars		
Department of Agriculture		\$18,809	\$17,130	\$8,843	\$0
U.S. Forest Service	Olympic planning and increase services	7,648	7,242	3,063	0
	Forest improvements	10,441	8,887	5,780	4,801
Department of Commerce		216	205	0	97
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Increased weather forecasting services	216	205	0	97
Department of Defense	Safety- and security-related services	26,074	24,691	48	48
Department of Energy	Safety- and security-related services	1,470	1,392	N/A	0
Department of Health and Human Services		2,228	2,110	0	0

⁵ For the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, Olympic Transportation System refers to the temporary parking lots that are scheduled to be built and the buses, drivers, and mechanics that are to be borrowed from other cities. Transportation officials pointed out that Salt Lake City is requesting \$151 million for this system; however, the Department of Transportation plans to provide \$50 million at this time.

Dollars in thousands

Federal organization	Project or activity	Planned		Expenditure ^a as reported	Designated by Congress ^b (Actual)
		As reported	1999 dollars		
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	Safety- and security-related services	2,228	2,110	0	0
Department of Housing and Urban Development^c		400	379	0	0
	New construction rental housing project	400	379	0	0
Department of the Interior		249	236	0	0
National Park Service	Increased park services	230	218	0	0
Bureau of Land Management	Increased services	5	5	0	0
	Safety- and security-related services	14	13	0	0
Department of Justice		39,636	37,534	13,795	9,899
Federal Bureau of Investigation	Safety- and security-related services	24,704	23,394	810	0
Immigration and Naturalization Service	Safety- and security-related services	1,410	1,335	3,000	0
Office of Community Oriented Policing	Grants for security-related communications	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Office of Justice Programs	Grants to state and local law enforcement agencies	3,899	3,692	2,925	3,899
Executive Office of U.S. Attorneys	Safety- and security-related services	1,085	1,027	86	0
U. S. Marshals Service	Safety- and security-related services	2,538	2,403	0	0
Department of State	Increased services	700	663	3	0
Department of Transportation		1,248,537	1,182,328	164,984	251,728
Federal Highway Administration	Accelerated projects: roads, bridges	699,080	662,008	121,547	26,200
	Traffic management system	97,010	91,866	19,000	5,000
	Olympic Planning	10,490	9,934	300	6,000
Federal Transit Administration	Light rail: North South Line	241,400	228,598	20,537	170,928
	Light rail: University Corridor Line	75,000	71,023	248	5,000
	Infrastructure improvements	22,995	21,776	2,349	18,600
	Olympic Transportation System	50,000	47,348	0	5,500
	Regular city bus purchases	34,248	32,432	1,003	14,500
Federal Aviation Administration	Temporary facilities	2,579	2,442	0	0
	Facility upgrades	12,435	11,776	0	0
	Land acquisition	3,300	3,125	0	0
Department of the Treasury		123,839	117,272	75	0
Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms	Safety- and security-related services	9,304	8,811	N/A	0
Internal Revenue Service	Safety- and security-related services	1,605	1,520	0	0
U.S. Secret Service	Safety- and security-related services	19,426	18,396	49	
U.S. Customs Service	Safety- and security-related services	77,307	73,207	22	0

Dollars in thousands

Federal organization	Project or activity	Planned		Expenditure ^a as reported	Designated by Congress ^b (Actual)
		As reported	1999 dollars		
Wireless Program	Safety- and security-related services	16,141	15,285	0	0
Office of Enforcement	Safety- and security-related services	56	53	4	0
Department of Veterans Affairs	Safety and security upgrades	4,643	4,397	1	0
Environmental Protection Agency		3,128	2,962	74	2,200
	Sewer construction	2,200	2,083	0	2,200
	Planning, increase services	500	473	0	0
	Security	428	405	0	0
Federal Communications Commission	Communication systems improvements	145	137	0	0
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Safety- and security-related services	10,837	10,262	0	0
General Services Administration	Safety- and security-related services	1,554	1,472	0	0
U.S. Information Agency	Education, cultural affairs	85	80	0	0
U.S. Postal Service		6,935	6,567	0	0
	Facilities improvements	4,935	4,673	0	0
	Increase services	2,000	1,894	0	0
Total		\$1,486,765	\$1,407,921	\$187,749	\$263,924

Legend: N/A = not available

^aPersonnel costs are generally not included in these amounts, with the exception of U.S. Forest Service.^b"Designated by Congress" refers to funds that were specifically designated for an Olympic-related purpose in appropriations acts or committee reports accompanying those acts. We are in the process of collecting information on additional projects that have been specifically designated by Congress for an Olympic-related purpose as part of the fiscal year 2000 appropriations process.^cThe Department of Housing and Urban Development reported a total of about \$39 million for various housing and community and economic development activities to OMB in April 1999 as being indirectly related to the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. We are in the process of collecting additional information on the amount of federal funding and support the Department of Housing and Urban Development has planned or provided to the 2002 Winter Olympic Games.

Source: OMB and various federal agency officials.

Late in 1999, Congress made additional funding designations for Olympic-related projects in fiscal year 2000 appropriations acts or committee reports accompanying the acts. Designations included such items as highways, light rail, transportation planning, the Olympic Transportation System, and the Paralympics. Because we did not have time to determine the extent to which all these designated funds were already included in the total amounts agencies reported as planned for the Salt Lake City Games, we did not include all of them in the "designated by Congress" column in table 3. We plan to include additional information on the fiscal year 2000 funding for Olympic-related projects in our final report.

Finally, according to a Salt Lake City Organizing Committee official, it is not yet clear how much federal funding and support will be provided for the Paralympics. We plan to include information on this in our final report.

Agency Comments and Our Evaluation

In December 1999, we received oral and written technical comments on the amounts and in some cases on the categorization of the Olympic projects and activities in a draft of this report from program officials at OMB and most of the other federal organizations included in our review. We modified this report to reflect the comments we received, as appropriate.

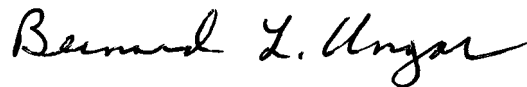
We also received oral comments from the Vice President of Federal Government Relations for the Atlanta Committee for Olympic Games and the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games regarding (1) the categorization of the Olympic projects and activities in this report and (2) the amount of federal funding and support designated by Congress. We modified this report to reflect comments regarding the first point and are in the process of collecting information on additional projects that have been specifically designated for an Olympic-related purpose as part of the fiscal year 2000 appropriations process. We plan to include this latter information in our final report next year.

OMB, various agency program officials, and the Salt Lake and Atlanta organizing committees emphasized the importance of recognizing that most of the federal funds used for the Atlanta Games and planned for Salt Lake City Games were or are for capital projects that would likely have been eventually provided regardless of the Games. Our report specifically addresses this issue. OMB also provided additional information on federal funding and support provided during the planning and staging of the Olympic Games. We are currently verifying this information and will incorporate it in our final report, as appropriate.

We are sending copies of this report to Senator Ernest Hollings, Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and Chairman Tom Bliley of the House Committee on Commerce. We are also sending copies of this report to Senators Orrin Hatch and Robert Bennett and Representatives James Hansen, Merrill Cook, and Chris Cannon of Utah. Copies of this report will also be made available to the Director of OMB; the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Education, Energy, Health and Human Services, the Interior, Housing and Urban Development, Labor, State, Transportation, the Treasury, and Veterans Affairs; and the Attorney General. We are also sending copies to the heads of the Corporation for

National and Community Services, Environmental Protection Agency, Federal Communications Commission, Federal Emergency Management Agency, General Services Administration, Tennessee Valley Authority, and U. S. Information Agency, and the Postmaster General. We will make copies available to others upon request.

Major contributors to this report included Tammy R. Conquest, Michael Rives, John Parulis, and David Bennett. If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 512-8387 or ungarb.ggd@gao.gov.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bernard L. Ungar". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bernard" and last name "Ungar" clearly legible.

Bernard L. Ungar
Director, Government Business
Operations Issues

Scope and Methodology

To (1) determine the amount of federal funding and support that was provided to the 1984 Olympic Games held in Los Angeles, the 1996 Olympic Games held in Atlanta, and the 2002 Winter Olympic Games planned for Salt Lake City and (2) describe the types of projects and activities that received or are designated to receive the federal funding and support, we relied upon a number of sources because there was no requirement for systematic or central accounting of this information.

We started with information from OMB, which in the past had made occasional requests to federal agencies asking for information relating to federal funding and support of various Olympic Games held in the United States. OMB compiled this information in June 1985 after the 1984 Olympic Games, in May 1996 prior to the 1996 Olympic Games, and, most recently, in April 1999 for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. We subsequently interviewed cognizant OMB officials regarding this information and followed up with each of the federal organizations identified in OMB data and the U.S. Postal Service, at both headquarters and field offices, as appropriate.

The federal organizations that reported some federal funding and support of the Olympic Games included the

- Department of Agriculture,
- Department of Commerce,
- Department of Defense,
- Department of Education,
- Department of Energy,
- Department of Health and Human Services,
- Department of Housing and Urban Development,
- Department of the Interior,
- Department of Justice,
- Department of Labor,
- Department of State,
- Department of Transportation,
- Department of the Treasury,
- Department of Veterans Affairs,
- Corporation for National and Community Services,
- Environmental Protection Agency,
- Federal Communications Commission,
- Federal Emergency Management Agency,
- Federal Executive Board,
- General Services Administration,

- Social Security Administration,
- Tennessee Valley Authority,
- U. S. Information Agency, and
- U. S. Postal Service.

At each agency, we obtained, to the extent possible, supporting information for the agency's planned, approved, and actual funding and expenditures as shown in such agency records as budget allocations, grant applications and awards, contracts, and corresponding expenditure reports, to document and describe its federally funded or supported Olympic-related projects or activities. In addition, to ensure the accuracy and completeness of our information, we requested agency program officials to review and comment on our summarization of their data.

We also interviewed officials from the Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles, the Atlanta Committee for Olympic Games, the Salt Lake Organizing Committee, and the United States Olympic Committee regarding any information that they maintained on federal funding and support of the Los Angeles, Atlanta, and Salt Lake City Olympic Games. At your request, we also contacted Congressional Research Service staff who had previously issued several reports¹ on federal funding and support of the Olympic Games. We expanded upon the information reported by the Congressional Research Service by obtaining additional details and updating the information.

As previously described, our verification of the information provided by the agencies was limited to collecting and reviewing available supporting documentation. However, in some cases, such documentation was not available. For example, in the case of the 1984 Olympic Games, OMB data were generally the only information available at the time of our review. In addition, the majority of the information on federal funding and support for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games is preliminary data, based on the agencies' best estimates to date and are therefore subject to change. We conducted our review from April 1999 to December 1999 in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards.

¹ For example, CRS Report for Congress: Federal Financing of the 1996 Atlanta Summer Olympic Games, September 22, 1998.

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